721 Monday [or Thursday] which is always favorable to us, *bwağbet aṯ-ṯnên.*"

They answer: "O Allâh, may success be our lot! May he grant us luck! *Jâ-llâh maḳsûm ḫejr allâh ja'ṭi as-sa'ad.*"

•705 492 Then they begin to hunt for good camel bags, flour, water bags, and barley for the horses. He who means to go on his mare only seeks someone to carry his food supplies, *zammâl.* If he finds a camel rider who will do him that service, *jezmaleh,* he loads his supplies on the camel and himself rides in the saddle, while the owner sits behind. The mare runs beside the camel to which she is tied. But every owner of a mare generally has a camel of his own and is accompanied either by his slave or a younger relative. Those who ride on camels are always in the majority, and for long raids in the hot season none but she-camels are used. Horses are ridden mainly on short raids, undertaken in the time of *rabi'.* Nor can all the horses in camp be taken out—at least half must be left at home in order to repel a possible hostile attack. All the horses are shod before making a raid, and a few extra horseshoes taken to meet emergencies, *jetanaṣṣel ḥdaḥa.* They also sew up, generally with horsehair, the vaginas, *jeṣabberûn al-faras,* of mares big with young, especially the older ones, in order to prevent miscarriage.

721 701 Old men and small boys must not go on a raid. They are left at home to guard the camp. However, a boy of twelve is old enough to join the raiders and may properly do so, especially in the *rabi'* season when neither thirst nor hunger threatens. In the hot months mainly men between 16 and 40 take part. They do not like to be accompanied by a young husband, *'arrîs* (sic), in the first year of his married life. This time, called *ḳrân al-'ars,* is not very favorable to important ventures, therefore it is better that the young husband should stay at home. No custom forbids men to have intercourse with their wives immediately before starting out, nor is it necessary that they should put on freshly washed clothes. Everybody usually leaves in the clothes he wears at the moment.

[585 777] [834] [714]

721 The preparations for a raid take a considerable time. However, nobody ever knows definitely against which tribe he is going, for the simple reason that the Rwala always have several enemies at once. Only the most intimate friends of the commander-in-chief know his objective, while the rest of the camp is kept guessing. This secret it is necessary to